

CTA-HK-AD-18452
No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/10/04 : LOC-HAK-546-17-20-5

221853Z NOV 72

~~TOP SECRET SENSITIVE~~ CONTAINS CODEWORD WHP0127

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

TO: GEN. HAIG

TOHAK 51

NOON NOTES

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

CONTAINS CODEWORD

NOVEMBER 22, 1972

MORI PER
C03354493

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. KISSINGER

DOS, USAF, DIA review(s)
completed.

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

No Objection to Declassification in Part 2011/10/04 : LOC-HAK-546-17-20-5

B-52 SHOOTDOWN: A B-52 AIRCRAFT WAS REPORTED HIT BY ENEMY FIRE TODAY OVER THE VINH TARGET AREA OF NORTH VIETNAM. THE AIRCRAFT SAFELY EXITED NORTH VIETNAMESE AIR SPACE AND CRASHED 10 MILES WEST OF NAKON PHANOM AIR FORCE BASE, THAILAND. PRELIMINARY REPORTS INDICATE THE CREW CLEARED THE AIRCRAFT BEFORE THE CRASH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS. IT IS NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME IF THE SHOOTDOWN WAS DUE TO AAA OR SAM FIRING. THIS IS THE FIRST B-52 LOSS TO ENEMY FIRE DURING THE VIETNAM WAR.

COMMUNIST PREPARATIONS FOR CEASE-FIRE: ACCORDING TO DIA, RECENT REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE COMMUNISTS ARE LAYING THE GROUND WORK TO PROVIDE CIVIL ADMINISTRATION, GOVERNMENT SERVICES, AND MILITARY SECURITY IN AREAS WHICH FALL UNDER THEIR CONTROL AFTER A CEASE-FIRE. INITIALLY THE ENEMY HOPED TO SUBSTANTIALLY EXPAND HIS DWINDLING INFRASTRUCTURE BY RECRUITING LOCAL PERSONNEL FOR LOW-LEVEL CIVIL ADMINISTRATION POSTS AND LOCAL FORCE AND GUERRILLA UNITS. ALTHOUGH THESE PLANS REMAIN UNCHANGED, THERE IS GROWING EVIDENCE THAT THE COMMUNISTS HAVE FALLEN SHORT IN BOTH THEIR CIVIL AND MILITARY RECRUITMENT GOALS. AS A RESULT, THE ENEMY IS PLACING MORE RELIANCE ON INFILTRATION, ABDUCTIONS, AND THE ASSIMILATION OF NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY PERSONNEL INTO VIET CONG UNITS. THIS INFUSION OF PERSONNEL THROUGHOUT THE VIET CONG RANKS WAS EXPECTED TO OCCUR IN THE EVENT OF A CEASE-FIRE IN ORDER TO LEAVE EXPERIENCED MILITARY PERSONNEL IN SOUTH VIETNAM UNDER COVER AND TO MAINTAIN HANOI'S CONTROL OF VIET CONG ORGANIZATIONS.

25X1

STATEMENT BY SAIGON: AN UNATTRIBUTED COMMENTARY OVER RADIO SAIGON REPEATS DEMANDS THAT ITS THREE PRINCIPLES BE CONSIDERED AS "INDISPENSABLE GUARANTEES." WITHOUT THIS, "NO AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED BY THE RVN GOVERNMENT" AND NO ONE, NOT EVEN THE U.S., CAN SIGN IN ITS STEAD. AN AGREEMENT SIGNED BY PROXY BECOMES "A WORTHLESS PIECE OF PAPER." IF THE U.S. AGREES TO A BOMBING HALT AND THE CLEARING OF MINEFIELDS IN NORTH VIETNAMESE PORTS IN EXCHANGE FOR THE RETURN OF POWS, IT WILL BE FALLING FOR A NORTH VIETNAMESE TRICK TO RESUME THE WAR. IN ORDER TO END THE WAR, THE SOURCE OF COMMUNIST GUNS AND AMMUNITION MUST BE DRIED UP; NORTH VIETNAMESE TROOPS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO CROSS THE 17TH PARALLEL; AND NO NORTH VIETNAMESE UNITS CAN BE ALLOWED TO REMAIN IN SOUTH VIETNAM, LAOS, AND CAMBODIA.

NVA 335TH INDEPENDENT REGIMENT WITHDRAWS FROM SOUTHERN PLAINE DES JARRES: THE HEADQUARTERS, NVA 335TH INDEPENDENT REGIMENT, AND AT LEAST TWO OF ITS BATTALIONS HAVE WITHDRAWN TO AN AREA NORTHEAST OF THE PLAINE DES JARRES NEAR ROUTE 7. PRIOR TO THIS WITHDRAWAL, THE REGIMENT WAS ENGAGED IN COMBAT OPERATIONS AGAINST PRO-GOVERNMENT TASK FORCE CHARLIE IN THE SOUTHERN TIP OF THE PLAINE. IN LATE MAY, THE REGIMENT HAD BEEN LOCATED NORTHEAST OF THE PLAINE, WHERE IT REGROUPED; THE REGIMENT APPARENTLY IS NOW INVOLVED IN SIMILAR ACTIVITY, ALTHOUGH SOME OF ITS UNITS COULD BE COMMITTED AGAINST TASK FORCE ECHO, WHICH IS OPERATING SOUTH OF BOUAM LONG.

PRESIDENT PARK APPRECIATES ELECTORAL SUPPORT: IN A STATEMENT ISSUED IN SEOUL FOLLOWING A POSITIVE OUTCOME OF THE NOVEMBER 21 CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM, SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT PARK EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR HIS PEOPLE'S "ABSOLUTE SUPPORT." ACCORDING TO KOREAN NEWS SOURCES, OVER 90 PERCENT OF THE 15 MILLION ELIGIBLE VOTERS TURNED OUT TO ENDORSE THE NEW CONSTITUTION, WHICH GRANTS PARK ALMOST COMPLETE POWER FOR AN UNLIMITED TIME.

EYSKENS GOVERNMENT TO RESIGN: BELGIAN PRIME MINISTER EYSKENS TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT HIS COALITION GOVERNMENT WAS RESIGNING BECAUSE OF A DEEP SPLIT OVER HOW TO SETTLE LINGUISTIC PROBLEMS IN THE COUNTRY.

EAST GERMAN VIEWS ON CHANGING EUROPEAN SITUATION: ON NOVEMBER 18, EAST GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE VON BERG TOLD EMBASSY BONN THAT THE EAST GERMAN LEADERSHIP IS EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES IN PRESERVING

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

CONTAINS CODEWORD

THE "ENEMY" IMAGE OF THE FRG IN THE WAKE OF THE INITIALLING OF THE BASIC INNER-GERMAN TREATY. VON BERG ALSO EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT MILITARY FORCES OF THE TWO GERMANY'S WILL BE INCLUDED IN ANY FORCE REDUCTIONS RESULTING FROM MBFR NEGOTIATIONS.

CEAUSESCU SPEAKS OUT ON EUROPEAN SECURITY: ROMANIAN PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU HAS TOLD THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM THAT MILITARY ISSUES SUCH AS WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS CANNOT BE SEPARATED FROM OTHER FUNDAMENTAL EUROPEAN CONCERNS AND THEREFORE SHOULD BE INCLUDED ON THE CSCE AGENDA. EMBASSY BUCHAREST OBSERVES THAT THIS IS AN IMPLICIT REJECTION OF THE WARSAW PACT POSITION ON MBFR NEGOTIATIONS.

TOP SECRET-SENSITIVE

CONTAINS CODEWORD

END OF MESSAGE